## Enhancing the Designed Landscape of Cally: the Role of Archives in Assisting Community Conservation Projects

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This article describes how a community group has used a wide variety of archives in its work to conserve and enhance the designed landscape of Cally. The article draws attention, first to the archives used to trace the development of Cally and the adjacent planned settlement of Gatehouse of Fleet in Dumfries and Galloway, laid out by James Murray of Broughton and Cally from the 1760s. Secondly the article shows how archives have played an important role in a number of community projects to conserve important features of the designed landscape of Cally including boundary walls, a charity school and the eighteenth century 'Temple'.

Gatehouse of Fleet is one of many planned settlements developed during the late 1700s and early 1800s along the Solway Coast in south-west Scotland. Completed in 1763, Cally House, the country seat of the Murrays of Broughton, Cally and Killybegs, is located immediately south of Gatehouse of Fleet, and the policies and pleasure grounds provide the setting for the town's Conservation Area within the Fleet Valley National Scenic Area and is listed in the *Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes*.<sup>1</sup> A desire by the local community to better understand and enhance the policies of Cally through community-run projects, led Gatehouse Development Initiative to commission a management plan published in 2007.<sup>2</sup> The use of archives has continued to inform community projects and has provided the evidence required to secure funds for the restoration of features in the designed landscape. Later sections of the paper will show how archival sources have greatly assisted these practical projects. In the absence of other local studies, this focus precluded a wider investigation of Cally in relation to other estates in the area.

Before embarking on conservation projects, the community required an understanding of the development of the designed landscape. A wide variety of archives had to be researched and this has been greatly assisted by the work undertaken by local historians, particularly J. E. Russell who published *Gatehouse and District* in 2003.<sup>3</sup> Further research has played a role in establishing the social context and revealing the human stories behind what we can see today. The development of Cally and its policies has been made accessible to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Available at http://data.historic-scotland.gov.uk/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Solway Heritage, *Cally Designed Landscape Management Plan.* Prepared for Gatehouse Development Initiative (Dumfries, 2007).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> J. E. Russell, *Gatehouse and District* (Dumfries, 2003).

a wide audience through the publication by Gatehouse Development Initiative of a booklet, *Cally Story*, in 2007.<sup>4</sup>

Unexpected sources have proved useful in improving our understanding of past changes. A speech given at the opening of the new town hall in Gatehouse of Fleet in 1885 included a statement about the Murray Arms Hotel being:

erected before there was a town, at about the same time that the mills were built. It was the former mansion house of Cally. The old mansion house which stood beside the lake had been disused for several hundred years. This was what might have been called the middle mansion house. It stood a little on the rising ground beyond where the present stables are, and when the present mansion house was built it was removed stone by stone and re-erected, on exactly the same pattern.<sup>5</sup>

Although no early estate plans exist of the Cally policies, we can use county and other maps to verify the facts in the town hall speech. Blaeu's *The Middle part of Galloway, which lyeth betweene the rivers Dee and Cree*, 1654 imprint, based on the lost Pont manuscript of *c*.1595, shows the tower house of Kelly surrounded by trees and a stockade which is a symbol for enclosed gardens or parkland.<sup>6</sup> The remains of this tower house and associated earthworks can still be seen on the west side of Cally Lake.

Roy's map from around the 1750s reveals a great deal more about Cally and changes being made to the surrounding landscape.<sup>7</sup> Alexander Murray was managing the estates at a time when farming practice was changing in Galloway, driven by the demand for beef in England. Large fields enclosed by dry-stone walls were built for the drove cattle. Macky, in *A Journey through Scotland* published in 1723, mentions:

a handsome seat call'd the Caily, belonging to Alexander Murray of Broughton, with a large park, which feeds one thousand bullocks, that he sends every year to the markets of England.<sup>8</sup>

Alexander Murray had married Euphemia Stewart, daughter of the Earl of Galloway, and had also purchased a town house in Kirkcudbright still known as Broughton House, which is now in the care of the National Trust for Scotland.

On Roy's map there is no sign of the abandoned tower house but we can see the 'middle mansion house' referred to in the town hall speech. The Murray of Broughton papers in the National Records of Scotland show

- <sup>4</sup> N. Coombey, *Cally Story* (Gatehouse of Fleet, 2007).
- <sup>5</sup> *Kirkcudbrightshire Advertiser*, 12 August 1885.
- <sup>6</sup> National Library of Scotland, J. Blaeu, Gallovidia pars media quae Deam et Cream fluvios interjacet (vulgo), The Middle part of Galloway, which lyeth between the rivers Dee and Cree, 1654 imprint.
- <sup>7</sup> British Library, Military Survey of Scotland, 1747–55 (Roy Maps), sheets 04–2a, 04–2d and 03–7c.
- <sup>8</sup> J. A. Macky, *Journey through England and a Journey through Scotland*, III (London, 1723), 328 and 329.

us that, at this time, Murray had ambitions to develop a new mansion and gardens. Correspondence dated 1742 involving Naysmith, Murray's 'fixer' in Edinburgh, and architect William Adam concern a 'great house' and suggest that the extent of the grounds to be laid out was 'to be no more than the gardens about the house and avenue'. Notably, the letter includes a request to 'concert a plan of what you propose to be built betwixt the two pavilions you [Murray] have already done'.<sup>9</sup> These pavilions are clearly shown on Roy's map with what appears to be planting to the south. The National Records also include plant lists sent the same year to Murray by Boutcher and Bain, two nursery suppliers in Edinburgh.<sup>10</sup>

It is not clear if the existing pavilions are included in the proposed mansion prepared by William Adam and included in *Vitruvius Scoticus* published in 1750.<sup>11</sup> The mansion was not built and it is not known what advice was given for the gardens and pleasure grounds. We do, however, know that there were gardens or at least a gardener who is identified in the Old Parish Records for Girthon, which has entries in 1712, 1720 and 1729 relating to the family of John Davidson, gardener at Cally.<sup>12</sup>

James Murray inherited the estate on his father's death in 1750 and married his cousin Lady Catherine Stewart. Like his father, James Murray speculated by acquiring and selling property: in the late 1750s he purchased Auchencruive Estate and sold Broughton House, Kirkcudbright. He instructed the Adam brothers to design and build a new mansion house at Auchencruive and meanwhile asked Isaac Ware to produce a grand Palladian design for Cally, although his design was never implemented.<sup>13</sup>

The Stewart of Galloway House archives provide evidence of the family influence on the development of Cally. Architect Robert Mylne sent to Lord Garlies, Murray's cousin and brother-in-law, an initial design while still studying in Rome in 1759. The drawings and a letter describing a house of great dimensions included the instructions, 'if the measures of the whole house are too large or too small, decrease or enlarge the scale'.<sup>14</sup> This appears to be exactly what was done and the building that was completed in 1765 was shrunk to fit the purpose, purse or perhaps even the space between pre-existing pavilions.

Much of the information available from archives concerns the house and

- <sup>10</sup> NRS, GD 10/142, IV, ff. 205, A and B Nursery lists, 1742.
- <sup>11</sup> University of Strathclyde, William Adam, *Vitruvius Scoticus* (Edinburgh, 1750).
- <sup>12</sup> H. E. Sproat (researcher), 1992 Old Parish Records, Parish of Girthon, available at Dumfries and Galloway Libraries.
- <sup>13</sup> National Library of Scotland (NLS), I. Ware, *The Complete Body of Architecture* (London, 1756), plates 56/57 'Plan and elevation of a house designed for James Murray Esq of Broughton at Kellie'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> National Records of Scotland (NRS), GD 10/1421, IV, f. 212, Letter from William Adam to Hon. Alexander Murray of Broughton, 1742.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> NRS, GD 10/1421/287, 288, Letter from Mylne to Lord Garlies, 1759.

little is known of the designed landscape. However, we can assume that the walled gardens were built at the same time because Murray entered into an agreement with a tannery in the growing settlement in 1768 and reserved the right to take the spent bark to use in the hothouses and gardens.<sup>15</sup>

Published material has provided information about the developing gardens. S. R. Crockett's *Raiderland* includes notes from the diary of a local landowner, William Cuninghame, who visited the house in 1786 only to find 'none of the family living there'. He had arrived at an awkward time for the family as James Murray had just recently eloped to England with Grace Johnston. Cuninghame provides a brief description of the gardens as 'the walls inclosed two acres of ground having two cross brick walls running across it one having a hot house for stone fruit and another for grapes, walls around 13 or 14 feet high and well covered'.<sup>16</sup>

Grace Johnston had been governess at Cally and had many local connections as her grandfather had been minister at the parish church and her brother an MP for the area. Although little can be found about the couple's disappearance in the Murray archives there are letters in other archives which give us a clue to the magnitude of the scandal. The Stewart of Shambellie papers at Dumfries Archives include a letter sent by Lady Catherine to Ann, her adopted daughter now married, asking the family not to speak to her husband 'as long as his frenzy remains'. In fact his 'frenzy' remained for some time and Grace gave birth to four children. Indeed, in 1794 Cally was altered by Thomas Boyd to add accommodation for the return of Murray with his extended family.<sup>17</sup>

After Murray's return there appears to have been increased activity in the grounds around Cally. It was also at this time that David Credie, one of the gardeners at Cally, set up a plant nursery within the policy, immediately to the south of Gatehouse. Details of the lease are held in the National Records of Scotland and the artist E. A. Hornel appears to have 'rescued' a number of bankruptcy case papers from the Sheriff Court in Kirkcudbright including those of Credie, which can now be found in the National Trust for Scotland archives at Broughton House. A Credie ledger shows that the nursery supplied gardens across south-west Scotland and the Isle of Man.

Local sources have also provided additional evidence of the development of the grounds. A collector of postal franks, for instance, showed the authors a letter sent by Credie to Lord Stair offering discounted rates for the delivery of trees and shrubs. Another local source of information was the transcription of the diary of William Todd. Owned by a local family, the diary describes the ornamental gothic tower at Cally called the Temple, where Todd's father, also William Todd, lived for ten years while he was in charge of the drove cattle. J. C. Louden's 1822 *An Encyclopaedia of Gardening* credits Ramsay for the layout of the landscape and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> I. Donnachie and I. MacLeod, *Old Galloway* (Newton Abbot, 1974).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> S. R. Crockett, *Raiderland, All About Grey Galloway* (London, 1904).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> RIBA Drawings Collection, Victoria and Albert Museum, SC108/2 (10–11).

the Temple.<sup>18</sup> Only the elevation nearest the old road between Girthon Parish Church and Gatehouse has openings, while the elevation facing the more distant Cally House has false apertures. A similar approach was used for Cross Cottage which looks like an old chapel from the drive approaching Cally.

The J. Ainslie map of post-1797 uses symbolic representations to identify the features of Cally and clearly identifies the extent of the policy as well as the planting and buildings within it. The design appears to follow the 'landscape style'; the entire policy is enclosed with belts of woodland or lines of trees, smooth contours provide open rolling parkland with scattered groves and a small flat body of water is located in front of the mansion.<sup>19</sup>

James Murray died in 1799 and Alexander, his illegitimate five-year-old son, inherited the estate. Trustees acting on behalf of Alexander continued with improvements to the estate and a map published in J. Thomson's Atlas in 1820 depicts some of these changes including the canalisation of the river Fleet, cutting of new water courses including Ass House Strand and the development of new roads.<sup>20</sup> John Buonarotti Papworth's drawings held in the RIBA Drawings Collection at the Victoria and Albert Museum showing proposals for lodges, entrance ways and a bridge, were also produced in the 1820s. Most of the designs do not seem to have been implemented with perhaps the exception of Belvedere Lodge.<sup>21</sup>

In 1845 Alexander Murray died while visiting his estate at Killybegs. With no children, the terms of the entail came into place and so the estate passed to the Stewart family. Changing his surname from Stewart Murray to Murray Stewart, the eleven-year-old Horatio moved to Cally but was left with massive debts which required a sale of all movable goods from paintings to pineapples.<sup>22</sup> Key staff were quickly reappointed but, for a number of years, the estate was running on much reduced staff levels. None of these issues are evident from the six inch first edition OS map published in 1854, which provides a clear indication of how the policies were divided into parks, woodland and garden and shows the development of roads and water courses at Cally.

Paintings have also provided evidence of the designed landscape as can be seen in Robert George Kelly's 1852 *View over Gatehouse of Fleet*, illustrating extensive woodland and Cally Lake (Plate 1). It is fortunate too, that there still exist some two hundred watercolours by H. J. Moule, the factor in the 1860s and 1870s, which give a real feeling of how the designed landscape would have

- <sup>19</sup> NLS, J. Ainslie map, 1797.
- <sup>20</sup> NLS, J. Thomson's Atlas, 1820.
- <sup>21</sup> RIBA Drawings Collection, Victoria and Albert Museum, PB1337/PAP[260] (1–50), PB1338/PAP[260] (51–107).
- <sup>22</sup> NRS, GD 10/925, Sale catalogue, 1846.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> J. C. Loudon, An Encyclopedia of Gardening; comprising the theory and practice of horticulture, floriculture, arboriculture and landscape-gardening including all the latest improvements; a general history of gardening in all countries; and a statistical view of its present state; with suggestions for its future progress, in the British Isles (London 1822).

Plate 1 View over Gatehouse of Fleet, R. G. Kelly, 1852 (Dumfries and Galloway Museum Service).

looked.<sup>23</sup> The paintings are often annotated and, although Moule appears to be more comfortable with landscape subjects than built features, they are a useful resource showing how the policies were managed. The Moule drawings can also be combined with photographs and postcards to give an understanding of features that have disappeared, such as the wooden footbridge through the arch of Bush Bridge.

Photographs have proved helpful in showing some of the Papworth additions including the chapel and Lady Anne's Terrace, which were later removed, and also some of the ornamental tree planting such as the Irish Yew, which remains today.

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, Library & Archive hold the report of the Apple and Pear Congress of 1885, where we find sixty varieties of apples and pears exhibited by Cally and the walled garden described as lying 'in a large hollow, sloping to the west, with southerly exposure and nicely sheltered by rising ground and woods. Many of the pear trees on the walls are very old but in good seasons have wonderful crops.'<sup>24</sup>

Throughout the development of Cally, the roads and drives were moved

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> H. J. Moule's drawings of Girthon and Anwoth can be seen in the Dorset County Museum, Dorchester, where Moule was the first curator.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society, Report of the Apple and Pear Congress held by the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society, Edinburgh, from 25th to 28th November 1885 (Edinburgh, 1887).

and although much can be seen on the county maps, a right-of-way case in the 1850s provides us with an annotated plan explaining when roads were built and when closed. Most of the effort was to move the public away from the house in a series of new developments. Horatio, now married to Anne Elizabeth Wingfield Digby, lost the case which allowed inhabitants of Gatehouse to walk through the policy to get to the old parish church in Girthon. A few years later an alternative right of way was established which diverted public gaze away from the house.

As we move into the 1900s there is much more information available to the researcher. Photographs can be used to confirm changes shown on OS maps such as the construction of a golf course, a predecessor of the hotel golf course which manages to maintain the open views of the parkland of the past. Aerial photographs show the effects of the sale of the policies to the Forestry Commission and A. R. Sturrock's painting *Felling timber at Cally* (c.1933) illustrates the terms of the 1933 sale which required all standing woodland to be removed before replanting.<sup>25</sup>

This outline of the development of Cally shows that, while there is limited information on the designed landscape in the family papers, a wide range of sources, including those discovered locally, has helped to build up a fuller picture. The development of the designed landscape of Cally cannot be seen in isolation to the planned settlement lying to the north, which was set out by James Murray with the aim of providing him with the skills needed to maintain Cally and also to provide him with further income.<sup>26</sup> A wide range of archives has also been used here to plot the development of the planned settlement and to find out more about those who took up the feus made available by James Murray and set up businesses in the growing settlement.<sup>27</sup>

Rural towns like Gatehouse did not have street numbers until after the Second World War so, in order to determine how the town developed, it has been necessary to trace back each house, starting with recent ownership records such as the valuation rolls. While a cartulary containing all the feus for Gatehouse of Fleet exists,<sup>28</sup> the Register of Sasines in the National Records of Scotland, as well as house owners' title deeds, has been the principal means of tracing the development of the town.<sup>29</sup> The sasines show Murray providing feus from 1766 for the craftsmen he would need to maintain Cally but also that

<sup>29</sup> In recent years the individual registers for each county in Scotland and the General Register have been filmed and can be searched electronically at General Register House.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> A. R. Sturrock, *Felling timber at Cally (c.*1933), Gatehouse Town Council Collection in the Stewartry Museum, Kirkcudbright.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> For more information on the development of planned settlements in Dumfries and Galloway see L. J. Philip, 'Planned Villages in Dumfries and Galloway: Location, Form and Function', *TDGNHAS*, Series III, 80 (2006), 105–22.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> For a detailed account of the early years of Gatehouse of Fleet, see D. Steel, *The Gatehouse Adventure* (Gatehouse of Fleet, 2011).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Stewartry Museum, Kirkcudbright, Cally Estate Archive, box 11, Broughton and Cally Estate Sederunt Book-feus and dispositions, 1766 to 1825.

he was providing feus to tradesmen who had moved from nearby fermiouns. These were being cleared as part of the enclosure of the estate, suggesting that Murray was conscious of the social implications of agricultural change.

The sasines show that the development of the town was not steady. The late 1760s had seen new developments as Murray established a local brewery and tannery. In 1771, as the Ayr Bank took over the Dumfries Bank, we see local landowners becoming shareholders in the bank and tradesmen borrowing from the shareholders. The bank directors had awarded themselves cash credits; in Murray's case, for as much as £10,000. Thus, when the Ayr Bank collapsed in 1772, the effects on the local economy were severe. Papers in the sequestration of local landowners, along with the Murray of Broughton papers (which show that James Murray had to borrow £16,000 to pay off his debt to the bank and a number of court cases brought at the instance of the Ayr Bank creditors), all reveal the impact of the collapse on the local economy. The Gatehouse property records show that no new building work took place for five years. The impact on the development of the designed landscape must have been significant, too.<sup>30</sup>

Archives help to show the effect of this difficult period on individual families. In the early 1820s, the young American scientist Joseph Henry did his family history and traced his grandparents back to a house in Gatehouse High Street.<sup>31</sup> The family had left Gatehouse in 1774 and 1775 and we know the exact house because the full title deeds survive, which show that this quite substantial property was sold for just  $\pounds 23$  in 1774.<sup>32</sup> We also know from records at the National Archives at Kew that the family sailed for America on a ship called the *Gale* of Whitehaven.<sup>33</sup> Henry's family history records have survived, because he went on to become the leading scientist of electromagnetism in the United States and his own papers are deposited in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, of which he was the first director.

In 1777 Murray decided to market Gatehouse. He advertised the town in the first editions of the local press and reduced his annual feu duties from three pence per foot to a shilling per feu and in 1783 also backdated the old feu duties to this rate to 'incite the vassals to industry'.<sup>34</sup> In 1785 he signed an agreement with the Birtwhistle family from Yorkshire to build a cotton-spinning mill in Gatehouse.<sup>35</sup>

<sup>30</sup> For greater detail on the sources used to plot the early development of Gatehouse of Fleet, see D. Steel, 'The Gatehouse Adventure: the Makers of a Planned Town 1760– 1830', *TDGNHAS*, Series III, 85 (2011), 119–42.

- <sup>33</sup> TNA, T47/12 List of passengers in the *Gale* of Whitehaven for New York.
- <sup>34</sup> *Dumfries Weekly Journal*, 12 August 1777. The 1783 reduction is endorsed on the back of surviving feu charters.
- <sup>35</sup> For more information on the Birtwhistle family, see Tony Stephens, 'The Birtwhistles of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> The authors are indebted to the Smithsonian Institution for scanning and emailing the relevant pages from the personal papers of Joseph Henry.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> The authors are indebted to the owner of the property for allowing them to study the title deeds.

Gatehouse saw rapid development in the early 1790s as the success of the Birtwhistle Mills encouraged others to set up mills in the town, which was granted burgh status in 1795, but the boom was short-lived. Sequestration papers, court cases showing how the Birtwhistles began to move into sheep farming in Ross-shire and a sudden end to house building, as seen by the lack of feu charters, collectively reveal how Gatehouse became what John Butt described as 'a beautiful example of an arrested industrial development'.<sup>36</sup>

Although Gatehouse of Fleet did not develop further as an industrial settlement, when James Murray's son, Alexander, came of age in 1810, a period of considerable estate improvement began as with the help of his factor, Alexander Craig, he set about improving the estate.

Murray began to enclose his policies with boundary walls, to embellish Cally with ha-has and sunken dykes, and to build a lake. In due course he canalised the river Fleet and reclaimed land to build a home farm. He built a swing bridge over the river and employed John Buonarotti Papworth to design a substantial new portico to Cally House. The detailed accounts for the river improvements and the building of the portico are recorded in the papers of Kirkcudbright Sheriff Court dealing with improvements to entailed estates.

In 1816, Alexander Murray married Lady Anne Bingham and one of her projects was the construction of a charity school for girls. In recent years the former school had begun to deteriorate rapidly and was in such a poor condition that the Forestry Commission planned to reduce it to knee height. Similarly, the boundary walls had suffered years of neglect, as they were no longer serving the purpose for which they were intended. However, the hardwood plantations, which were established in the 1930s, have grown significantly and thinning has again revealed the beauty of the designed landscape of Cally. The final sections of this article will provide a brief description of how archives have helped in the restoration work and in bringing these structures back to life.

First, let us look at the boundary walls. Dry-stone walls are a key feature of Cally and several different types can be found within the designed landscape, from ancient field dykes, ha-has, unusual sunken dykes, deer dykes and boundary walls intended to make a statement about the power and significance of the Murray family.

The Gatehouse Development Initiative secured a small grant in 2008 to employ Solway Heritage to carry out a condition survey of the walls within the designed landscape. A team of twelve local volunteers surveyed a total of seventeen kilometres of wall, recording and mapping the dyke type, style and construction in order to obtain a better understanding of the extent of boundary features.

Historic maps were used to determine the evolution of the various types

Galloway and Craven: Drovers, Industrialists, Writers and Spies', *TDGNHAS*, Series III, 83 (2009), 151–80.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> J. Butt, 'The Industrial Archaeology of Gatehouse of Fleet', *Industrial Archaeology*, 3.2 (1966), 127–37.

Plate 2 Sunken dyke, Cally after restoration (image by David Steel).

of wall and new maps were then produced showing the different walls within the designed landscape. A plan of priority work was drawn up and, with the support of Forestry Commission Scotland, an application was made to LEADER and the Heritage Lottery Fund. A sum of  $\pounds 66,000$  was secured for a twoyear project beginning in November 2008. Volunteers began clearing ivy from those dykes chosen for restoration and professional dykers then undertook the restoration work.

Archives have proved invaluable in this restoration work. A key feature of the designed landscape of Cally is a beautifully constructed sunken dyke forming a boundary between the Forestry Commission plantation and the designed parkland beyond (Plate 2). This wall was overgrown with vegetation and had been badly damaged by fallen trees. In 2008 it had no coping stones – had these been removed to another dyke or had there never been coping stones? Not only did the entailed estate records in the Kirkcudbright Sheriff Court papers detail the construction of the sunken dyke, showing that it had originally been turfed, but they also itemised the cost of construction, the year of construction and gave the names of the dykers who carried out the work.<sup>37</sup>

Similarly, the boundary wall enclosing the designed landscape is fully

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> NRS, SC 16/64/5, pp. 219, 222 and 223.



Plate 3 Commemorative stone in Cally boundary wall (image by David Steel).

recorded in the Sheriff Court papers and, as well as knowing which dykers were responsible for which sections of wall, we can see the large sums expended by the landowner in this work. Some of these details have been incorporated in a stone let into the restored dyke to record the conservation work carried out in 2010 (Plate 3).

In 2009, the Gatehouse Development Initiative also commissioned a study of the former Lady Anne's Charity School at Cally, with a view to conserving the structure. Again, funding was secured but the aim of the conservation project was not merely to preserve one of the buildings in the designed landscape but to tell the story of the structure by pointing out its significance to locals and visitors alike.

Following clearing of the site by volunteers and professional conservation work, a panel was produced to tell the story of the school as well as providing some information on its patron, Lady Anne Murray. The names of the teachers with dates are shown, there is some indication of local businesses that supplied the school and we have used a painting by Gatehouse-born artist, Thomas Faed, to suggest the construction of the building and the atmosphere of an early nineteenth-century rural school. In the picture, the patron and patroness are accompanied by their black servant. When the Initiative was producing the panel, members had no idea that Alexander Murray was one of those compensated for slave ownership in the 1840s.<sup>38</sup> Was Faed perhaps aware of this?

Researching a simple board has involved the consultation of many archives. Sadly, despite our best endeavours, we have not discovered a photograph of the building before it fell into disrepair. The person who rented Cally House in the early twentieth century used the Old School House as a hut for the local Brownie troop of which her daughters were members. We have discovered a photograph of one of these Brownies with Lady Baden Powell but alas, not at Cally.

The first record of the school is an entry in the Cally Accounts in the Murray of Broughton papers. While a Papworth drawing refers to the building, there appear to be no relevant plans in the Papworth papers. We find the teacher in the 1841 census and there is also some reference to the school in the papers dealing with the sequestration of Alexander Murray's estate following his death in 1845.<sup>39</sup>

There are references to the schoolchildren in Court of Session papers from the 1850s, dealing with rights of access through Cally. From the early marriage records, we learn that the schoolteacher at the girls' school at Cally Lake married the charity schoolmaster in Gatehouse, after which it appears the two schools were amalgamated in the town. Together, these sources tell the story of the school.

Currently the Gatehouse Development Initiative and the Forestry Commission are putting together a project to conserve another significant building within the designed landscape, the so-called 'Temple', built in 1779. A variety of different archives will be used to tell the story of this building, not least the diary of William Todd and snippets such as the invoice for the quarrying of stones for the building.<sup>40</sup>

Over the last four years, the Gatehouse Development Initiative has worked with the stakeholders within the designed landscape of Cally to conserve and enhance this important local resource. Archives have played an important part in helping us to gain a better understanding not only of the development of this designed landscape and the people associated with it, but also of the practical aspects of the construction of some of the important landscape features. This knowledge has informed our conservation work and facilitated the production of a variety of publications.<sup>41</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Thomas Faed, *The Visit of the Patron and the Patroness to the Village School* (1851), Dundee Art Galleries and Museum. The authors are indebted to Rachel Lang, Project Administrator, Legacies of British Slave-ownership, Department of History UCL for information on the compensation claim brought by Alexander Murray and Lady Anne Murray.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> NRS, CS 280/44/31 Sequestration of Alexander Murray.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> NRS, GD 10/1189.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> See, for instance, P. Bishop and R. Oliver, 'Representation of ha-has on OS Six-inch mapping', *Sheetlines*, 95 (December 2012), 6–15. This article focuses on the ha-has at Cally.